

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 DHA-02 /067 W
-----250834Z 095966 /11

R 241535Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4385
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BERLIN 5601

E O 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, GE
SUBJ: NOTES ON NATO QUESTIONNAIRE ISD/40 ON GDR IMPLEMENTATION OF
HUMAN RIGHTS DESCRIBED IN BASKET III, CSCE FINAL ACT.

REF: A) NATO QUESTIONNAIRE ISD/40 - HUMAN CONTACTS - GDR.

1. SUMMARY: ON MARCH 18 AND 22, 1977, REPRESENTATIVES FROM
THE FOLLOWING DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN EAST BERLIN MET AT THE
BRITISH EMBASSY, AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE BRITISH, TO REVIEW
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NATO QUESTIONNAIRE ISD/40 ON "HUMAN CONTACTS - GERMAN, DEMO-
CRATIC REPUBLIC": UK, ITALY, GREECE, FRG, DENMARK, FRANCE,
NETHERLANDS AND THE U.S. THE GROUP EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE
SUBJECT COVERED IN THE DOCUMENT AND CAME TO UNOFFICIAL
CONSENSUS ON THE QUESTION REMAINING UNANSWERED OR WAS IM-
PRECISELY ANSWERED BY NATO IS. EACH EMBASSY WILL
REPORT THESE UNOFFICIAL CONSENSSES TO ITS OWN NATIONAL

AUTHORITIES.END SUMMARY.

2. BELOW WILL BE FOUND OUR SYNTHESIS OF WHAT THE GROUP
AGREED TO BE SUITABLE ANSWERS TO THESE POINTS MARKED
(N.B.) IN ISD/40.

3. PAGE 1. (A) TO LEAVE GDR...(III) CORRECT.
(B) TO ENTER GDR...SUCH REFUSALS HAVE INCREASED AS FAR AS FRG
CASES ARE CONCERNED, SINCE 1977 BEGAN.
(C) FOREIGN EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS ARE MARKS 6.50 FOR TRAVELERS
FROM WEST BERLIN TO EAST BERLIN AND MARKS 13.50 FOR TRAVELERS FROM
THE FRG AND WEST BERLIN TO THE GDR.

4. PAGE 3. (A) NO SPECIAL DIFFICULTIES FOR GDR CITIZENS
TO VISIT FORMER GDR RESIDENTS LIVING IN THE WEST.
(B) (II) TRUE.
(C) (V) FEES ARE ACCEPTABLE. PASSPORTS VALID FOR TEN YEARS COST
30 MARKS; EXIT PERMITS COST 5 MARKS. SOME PENSIONERS HAVE BEEN
EXEMPT FROM PASSPORT (NOT EXIT PERMIT) FEES.
(D) IF THE PERSON IS NOT A PENSIONER, A "HOSTAGE" IS ALWAYS LEFT
BEHIND.

5. PAGE 4. (A)(II) ALTHOUGH THE REGULATIONS SAY 30 DAYS ABROAD
PER YEAR, SOME PENSIONERS HAVE OBTAINED 5 TO 6 WEEKS OUTSIDE
THE GDR.
(B)(IV) BARRING ACCESS TO THE FRG PERMREP DOES NOT NOW OCCUR; HOW-
EVER, SOME VISITORS MAY BE QUESTIONED BY PLAIN CLOTHES SECURITY
AGENTS SOME DISTANCE FROM THAT OFFICE AFTER THEY DEPART.
(C)(V) GENERALLY AVAILABLE; (D)(VI) CORRECT; (E)(VII) SEE 4.
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(A) ABOVE.

6. PAGE 4. (A) II-A-(II). THERE ARE SOME INSTANCES OF GDR-ORIGIN
PEOPLE BEING REFUSED ENTRY FROM WEST BERLIN AND THE FRG SINCE
1977 BEGAN, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF GDR CONCERN THAT THEY WOULD
ENCOURAGE THEIR RELATIVES TO TRY TO LEAVE. FORMER PRISONERS IN THE
GDR, INCLUDING GDR CITIZENS, HAVE ALSO BEEN REFUSED. HOWEVER,
REFUSALS DO NOT APPEAR TO BE BASED ON COUNTRY OF ORIGIN PER SE.
(B)(III) YES.
(C)(V) THE CHARGE OF 40 MARKS (WEST) FOR A GDR MULTIPLE ENTRY-
EXIT VISA IS CONSIDERED HIGH BY SOME EMBASSIES.(WE NOTE, HOWEVER,
THAT THE U.S. CHARGES \$8.50 (EAST MARKS 21.25) FOR A SINGLE ENTRY
THREE MONTH VISITORS VISA.) THE GDR ALSO REFUSED TO CONSIDER A U.S.
PROPOSAL TO LOWER RECIPROCALLY NON-IMMIGRANT VISA FEES.
(D) B (I) THE GDR HOST BEGINS THE PROCESS BY TAKING A LETTER OF
INVITATION TO THE LOCAL PEOPLE'S POLICE DISTRICT OFFICE. IF AP-
PROVED, THE APPLICATION IS THEN SHIFTED TO THE GDR STATE TRAVEL
AGENCY FOR COMPLETION.

7. PAGE 6. (A) (III) NO RESTRICTIONS.

(B)(IV) THERE ARE SOME RESTRICTIONS IN BORDER AND MILITARY AREAS.

(C) GDR EXIT VISAS. TRAVELERS ON SOCIALIST AIRLINES TO ALL COUNTRIES MAY PAY AIR FARES IN GDR MARKS.

(D) GDR ENTRY VISAS. FRG CITIZENS AND WEST BERLINERS HAVE BEEN INCREASINGLY REFUSED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 77.

8. PAGE 7. (A) WE JUDGE THAT ALLIED PERFORMANCE IN THIS AREA FAR EXCEEDS GDR PERFORMANCE. ALTHOUGH COSTS MAY BE COMPARABLE, THE LENGTH AND CONVENIENCE OF PROCESSING TIME, THE LENGTH AND CONVENIENCE OF PROCESSING AND THE FREQUENCY OF REFUSALS REVEAL MUCH BETTER ALLIED PERFORMANCE.

(B) TABLE II - SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 1977, THE FRG HAS HAD A SPECIAL PROBLEM ON ENTRY OF ITS CITIZENS AND WEST BERLINERS INTO THE GDR AND EAST BERLIN.

9. PAGE 8. (A) THERE IS INADEQUATE INFORMATION ON THIS; ANY FIG-CONFIDENTIAL

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URES OR NUMBERS OF APPLICATNS AND REFUSALS WOULD BE PURE SPECULATION.

10. PAGE 10. (A) A. (II) ONLY OCCASIONALLY IS SPECIAL CONSIDERATION GIVEN IN SUCH CASES.

(B)(III) OUR EXPERIENCE X HAS BEEN THAT CASES ARE RESOLVED FAVORABLY DURING GREATLY VARYING TIME FRAMES. IT IS NOT TRUE TO SAY THAT IF A CASE IS NOT SOLVED IN SIX MONTHS, IT WILL LINGER ON INDEFINITELY. WHAT IS REQUIRED IS CONSTANT PRESSURE BY THE APPLICANT AND THE CONCERNED ALLIED GOVERNMENT. DEPENDING ON THE CURRENT STATE OF PLAY OF BILATERAL RELATIONS, ONE OR MORE CASES MAY BE RESOLVED FAVORABLY AT ANY MOMENT IN TIME.

11. PAGE 11. (A)(IV) SEE PARA 3(C).

(B) (V) SINCE LATE 1976, APPLICANTS TO EMIGRATE TO THE FRG WHO HAVE BEEN REFUSED ENCOUNTER GREAT DIFFICULTIES IN RENEWING SUCH APPLICATIONS.

(C) (VI) EMIGRANTS MAY SHIP HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL EFFECTS, ALTHOUGH THIS MAY PROVE COSTLY.

(D) (VII) THE FRG HAS INCREASING DIFFICULTIES IN THIS REGARD.

(E)(VIII) THIS IS A INSIGNIFICANT FACTOR.

(F)(IX) THIS SHOULD BE AMENDED TO READ, "MANY APPLICANTS HAVE HAD HEAVY PRESSURES..."

12. PAGE 12. (A) (III) THIS IS NOT A PRACTICAL

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USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 DHA-02 /067 W
-----250833Z 097501 /21

R 241535Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BERLIN 5601

ROBLEM AS THE GDR HAS THE HIGHEST LIVING STANDARD IN
EASTERN EUROPE AND SUCH MIXED EE MARRIAGES TEND TO SETTLE
IN THE GDR.

(B)(IV) THEY MAY NOT TAKE CARS; HOWEVER, CARS
ARE EASILY SOLD IN THE GDR AND THE FUNDS DISPOSED OF.

(C)(V) CORRECT.

(D)(VI) INFORMATION ON SUCH PROCEDURES IS
AVAILABLE IN THE GDR.

(E)(VII) REASONS FOR SUCH REFUSALS ARE NOT
GIVEN TO THE APPLICANT.

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(F)(VIII) NOT REQUIRED.

13. PAGE 13. (A) ALLIED PERFORMANCE IS MUCH BETTER THAN
THE GDR IN THIS FIELD.

14. PAGE 14. (A) TABLE II - IT MIGHT BE MORE ACCURATE TO SAY THAT DEGREE OF IMPROVEMENT FOR US CASES WAS " LITTLE".

15. PAGE 18. (A) "...DEAL WITH APPLICANTS...
AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE" - APPLICANTS CAN EXPECT LONG DELAYS.
(B) USUALLY FOREIGN FIANC(E) MAY VISIT GDR LOVED ONE FAIRLY EASILY DURING PROCESSING PERIOD AND WHEN MARRIAGE PERMISSION IS GIVEN. VISA APPLICATIONS TAKE THE USUAL PERIOD OF TIME. GDR USUALLY - BUT NOT ALWAYS - REQUIRES MARRIAGE IN THE GDR.

16. PAGE 19. (A) SAME AS FAMILY REUNIFICATION.
(B)(I) APPLICATION PROCEDURES- GDR PARTNER APPLIES TO LOCAL CITY COUNCIL OR POLICE OFFICE, WHICH REQUIRES VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTATION. BASIC DECISIONS SEEM ALMOST ALWAYS TO BE MADE IN BERLIN.
(C) (II) YES.
(D)(III) NO SEX DISCRIMINATION.

17. PAGE 20. TABLE I - GREAT.

18. PAGE 21. TABLE II - (A) IF PERMISSION TO MARRY HAS BEEN GRANTED, LITTLE DIFFICULTY. PERMISSION TO MARRY IS DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN.
(B) GREAT.

19. PAGE 22 (A) TABLE III - (A) CONSIDERABLE
(B) GREAT
(B) TABLE IV - LITTLE FOR US.
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20. PAGE23. NOTE: IN A RECENT INTERVIEW WITH AN FRG NEWSPAPER, MR. HONECKER SAID THAT TOURISM COULD INCREASE IF (A) BLAANCE OF PAYMENTS WERE RESOLVED FAVORABLY, AND (B) THEE IS RECOGNITION OF GDR NATIONALITY. (THISINTERVIEW OCCURRED IN THE CONTEXT OF GDR/FRG RELATIONS).

21. PAGE 25. (A) REWRITE FIRST PARAGRAPH CAHNGING " IS VERY RELAXED" TO " PROMOTED" AND, IN LAST SENTENCE ADD PHRASE " TO EASTERN EUROPE."
(B) HOSTAGES USUALLY NOT REQUIRED, ALTHOUGH, OCCASIONALLY, THIS CAN OCCUR HERE AS WELL.
(C) THERE ARE INCREASING DIFFICULTIES FOR CERTAIN FRG AND WEST BERLIN VISITORS TO GDR RESIDETS APPLYING TO LEAVE TH GDR.

22. PAGE 26. (A) (VI) THERE HAVE BEEN A CERTAIN
NUMBER OF GDR RELIGIOUS PERSONALITIES WHO HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO VISIT THE US FOR CONTACT WITH RELIGIOUS INSTI-
TUTIONS IN THE US. THE CLERGY ARE NOT PREVENTED FROM
EMIGRATING FROM THE GDR.

23. PAGE 27 (A) (VII) CORRECT.
(B) (VIII) CORRECT
(C) B(I) CORRECT.
(D) (IV) NO PARTICULAR PROBLEMS IN GET-
TING WESTERN VISAS.
(E) (V) AVAILABLE.
(F) (VI) YES.
(G) (VII) YES.

24. PAGE 29. (A) ALLIED PERFORMANCE IN THIS AREA IS
GENERALLY BETTER IN TERMS OF APPLICATION PROCEDURES,
COSTS, LENGTH OF PROCESSING TIME, WILLINGNESS TO REDUCE
VISA FEES AND FREQUENCY OF REFUSALS.
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(B) TABLE I: SEE NOTE
PROFESSIONAL GROUP TRAVEL INDIVIDUALS
LITTLE N/A MODERATE
NOTE: WHEN PERMISSION IS GIVEN BY
THE GDR. INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT
PENSIONERS ARE USUALLY REFUSED OUT
OF HAND.

(C) TABLE II
PROFESSIONAL GROUP TRAVEL INDIVIDUALS
MODERATE N/A MODERATE

25. PAGE 32. (A) TABLE V
FRANCE: GDR REGULAR PASSPORTS
1974 1975 1976
4038 4509 5040
U.K.: SHOULD BE CHANGED TO TEXT UNDER
"NETHERLANDS".

26. PAGE 34. ALTHOUGH THE GDR CLAIMS TO TREAT TRAVELRES
TO EAST BERLIN THE SAME AS TRAVELERS TO THE GDR, THERE
ARE DISTINCTIONS:
(A) DAY VISAS ARE STILL ISSUED SEPARATELY FOR EAST
BERLIN.
(B) WEST BERLINERS HAVE GREATER DIFFICULTY IN
VISITING EAST BERLIN THAN FRG CITIZENS.

27. PAGE 35. (A) PASSPORTS AND EXIT VISAS ARE APPLIED
FOR SIMULTANEOUSLY. THE GDR INDICATES ON THE EXIT VISA
WHAT THE PURPOSE OF TRAVEL IS, E.G. EMIGRATION, FAMILY

VISIT, ETC.

(B) PASSPORTS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR
CONTACT WITH WESTERN MISSIONS IN EAST BERLIN. THERE IS A
GDR LAW PROHIBITING SUCH CONTACT WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION.

(C) WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON THE GDR
PASSPORT APPLICATION.

(D) AVERAGE MONTHLY SALARY IS GDR MARKS
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850.(THIS FIGURE IS A CSENSUS BY U.K., FRENCH,
FRG AND GREEK OFFICIALS HERE.)

28. COMMENTS. THESE NOTES INCLUDED SOME POINTS ON
WHICH THERE WAS NOT UNANIMITY. FURTHTER, SOME FEW
QUESTIONS WERE NOT ANSWERED BECAUSE OF THE PAUCITY
OF INFORMATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY COMPLIANCE, POLICIES, INFORMATION EXCHANGE, HUMAN RIGHTS, SURVEYS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS, BASKET III, MEETINGS, BERLIN QUADRIPARTIT E MATTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN05601
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770102-0849
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770328/aaaaaxws.tel
Line Count: 353
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3c4e20b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 NATO BRUSSELS 40
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3013696
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NOTES ON NATO QUESTIONNAIRE ISD/40 ON GDR IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DESCRIBED IN BASKET III, CSCE FINAL ACT.
TAGS: PFOR, GC, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3c4e20b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

